

STUDY 01 – WHAT IS TRUTH? WHY DO I BELIEVE & PRACTICE WHAT I DO? IS IT TRUE OR

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QUESTION: WHAT IS TRUTH?

Joh_18:38 Pilate saith unto him (Jesus), **What is truth?** And when he had said this, he went out again unto the Jews, and saith unto them, **I find in him (Jesus) no fault at all.**

QUESTION: WHY DO I BELIEVE & PRACTICE WHAT I DO?

[A.] Act 17:22 Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars' hill, and said, Ye men of Athens, **I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious.**

Act 17:23 For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, **TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you.**

[B.] Joh 4:19 The woman saith unto him, Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet.

Joh 4:20 Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship.

Joh 4:21 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father.

Joh 4:22 **Ye worship ye know not what:** we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews.

[C.] 1Co_12:1 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, **I would not have you ignorant.**

QUESTION: SO, WHAT IS TRUTH?

[A.] Joh_17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: **thy word is truth.**

[B.] Psa 25:10 **All the paths of the LORD are** mercy and **truth** unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies.

[C.] Psa 119:142 Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and **thy law is the truth.**

[D.] Psa 119:151 Thou art near, O LORD; and **all thy commandments are truth.**

[E.] Joh 14:6 **Jesus** saith unto him, **I am** the way, **the truth**, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

[F.] 1Jn_5:6 This is he that came by water and blood, even Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because **the Spirit is truth.** (see also John 14:17, 15:26, 16:13)

[G.] Deu_32:4 He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a **God of truth** and without iniquity, just and **right is he.** (see also John 3:33, "God is true"; Romans 3:4, "yea, let God be true"; John 17:3, "the only true God")

QUESTION: HOW DO I KNOW GOD IS TRUE, AND HIS WORD TRUTH?

[A.] Isa 45:19 I have not spoken in secret, in a dark place of the earth: I said not unto the seed of Jacob, Seek ye me in vain: **I the LORD speak righteousness, I declare things that are right.**

[B.] Tit_1:2 In hope of eternal life, which **God, that cannot lie,** promised before the world began;

[C.] Heb_6:18 That by two immutable things, in which **it was impossible for God to lie,** we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:

[1] PROPHECY (FUTURE) (FALL OF BABYLON, DESOLATION OF EGYPT, 4 WORLD KINGDOMS):

Isa 46:9 Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me,

Isa 46:10 **Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done,** saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:

[A.] **FOUR** world empires would arise: **BABYLON, MEDO-PERSIA, GREECE, & ROME** (Daniel chapters 2, 7, 8-12).

[B.] **CYRUS** to be the warrior to capture Babylon (Isaiah 45:1-3).

[C.] After **BABYLON'S** destruction, it would never be inhabited again (Isaiah 13:19-20; Jeremiah 51:37).

[D.] **EGYPT** would never again have a commanding position among the nations (Ezekiel 29:14, 15 30:12-13).

[E.] Earth-shaking **CALAMITIES & FEAR** toward the end of time (Luke 21:25-26).

[F.] Moral **DEGENERACY & DECLINE** of spirituality in the last days (2 Timothy 3:1-5).

[2] CURRENTLY (PRESENT TRUTH) (CIVIL WAR, UNREST, ENVIRONMENTAL & HEALTH CRISES, FAMILY):

2Pe_1:12 Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and **be established in the present truth.**

[3] HISTORY & ARCHAEOLOGY (PAST) (GLOBAL FLOOD, TEL DAN STELE, MERNEPTAH STELE, CYRUS CYLINDER, NABONIDUS CHRONICLE, &c):

Ecc 1:9 The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun.

Ecc 3:15 That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; and God requireth that which is past.

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[4] UNITY (HARMONY):

[A.] Isa 28:10 For **precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little:** (see also Isaiah 28:13)

[B.] Mat 18:16 But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that **in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.**

[C.] 1Co 14:32 And **the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets**

The 66 books (39 - GENESIS TO MALACHI, + 27, MATTHEW TO REVELATION) of the Bible were written:

[I.] On three continents (EGYPT, **AFRICA**; CANAAN &/or JUDEA, **ASIA** (MINOR); PATMOS, &/or ROME, **EUROPE**).

[II.] In three languages (**HEBREW, SYRIACK** (ARAMAIC), koine **GREEK**).

[III.] By about 40 different people (**MOSES, JOSHUA, SAMUEL, EZRA, NEHEMIAH, DAVID, SOLOMON, AGUR, LEMUEL, SONS OF KORAH, ASAPH, HEMAN THE EZRAHITE, HEZEKIAH, ISAIAH, JEREMIAH, EZEKIEL, DANIEL, NEBUCHADNEZZAR, HOSEA, JOEL, AMOS, OBADIAH, JONAH, MICAH, NAHUM, HABAKKUK, ZEPHANIAH, HAGGAI, ZECHARIAH, MALACHI, MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE, JOHN, PAUL, TERTIUS, JAMES, PETER, JUDE**, and perhaps 1 or two others (priests, scribes, amanuensis, &c).

[IV.] Over a period of about 1,500-1,600 years (**TIME OF PROPHET MOSES TO APOSTLE JOHN**).

[V.] On the most controversial subjects (**RELIGION, POLITICS, PHILOSOPHY, CREATION, FAMILY, SEXUALITY, &c**)

[VI.] By people who, in most cases, had never met.

[VII.] By authors whose education and background varied greatly (such as **KINGS, SHEPHERDS, PROPHETS, MUSICIANS, SCIENTISTS, LAWYERS, GENERAL, FISHERMEN, PRIESTS, SCRIBES, PHYSICIAN, RICH & POOR**).

[5] TESTIMONY (WITNESS):

[A.] Gal 1:23 But they had heard only, That **he which persecuted us in times past now preacheth the faith which once he destroyed.**

Gal 1:24 And **they glorified God in me.**

[B.] Gal 2:20 **I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me:** and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

[6] CONSERVANCY (PRESERVATION, "Divine Inspiration, without Divine Preservation & Translation, would be a Divine waste of time."):

Psa 12:6 **The words of the LORD are pure words:** as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.

Psa 12:7 **Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.** (see also Deuteronomy 8:3; Matthew 4:4, 24:35; Mark 13:31; Luke 4:4, 21:33; 2 Cor. 3:2-3; Col. 1:13; Heb. 11:5; 2 Sam. 3:10)

[7] IN-ERRENCY or ACCURACY (IN ALL THINGS, MORALITY, MATHEMATICALLY, SCIENTIFICALLY, MEDICALLY, AGRICULTURALLY, HORTICULTURALLY, SOCIETALLY):

[A.] Psa 119:160 **Thy word is true from the beginning:** and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever.

[B.] Pro 22:21 **That I might make thee know the certainty of the words of truth;** that thou mightest answer **the words of truth** to them that send unto thee? (see also Daniel 10:21, 11:2)

[C.] Joh 10:35 If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and **the scripture cannot be broken;**

FINAL THOUGHTS:

[A.] Isa 8:20 **To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.**

[B.] 1Pe 4:11 **If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God;** if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

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[C.] 2Ti 3:15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

2Ti 3:16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

2Ti 3:17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

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